

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the subject application.

This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed April 18, 2007. Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 1-32 are rejected.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8, 9 and 22-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tenerz, et al. (US Patent No.: 4,941,473, hereinafter "Tenerz") in view of Engelson (US Patent No.: 5,599,492, hereinafter "Engelson") and Jackson (US Patent No.: 6,498,941, hereinafter "Jackson"), claims 11-17 and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tenerz in view of Engelson and Jackson and further in view of Jafari (US Patent No.: 5,980,471, hereinafter "Jafari") and Hurtak, et al. (US Patent No.: 6,458,088 hereinafter "Hurtak") and claims 29-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Engelson and Jackson and further in view of Amundson, et al. (US Patent No.: 6,178,346 hereinafter "Amundson").

Jackson is not prior art to the present application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) and MPEP § 2146. Jackson and the present application were, at the time the invention was made, both subject to an obligation of assignment to Advanced

Cardiovascular Systems, Inc., the assignee of record for both the present application and Jackson.

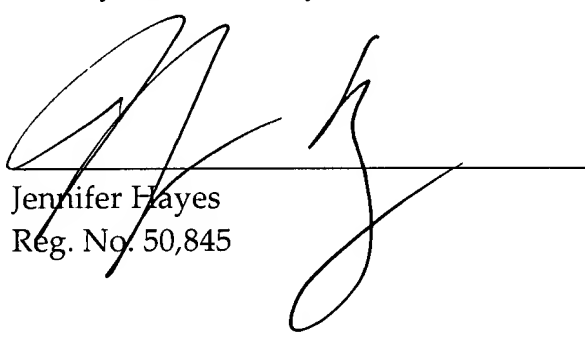
Applicants, accordingly, respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Jennifer Hayes at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman LLP

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